

## Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS PFOR BF US  
SUBJ: SENATOR STONE'S MEETING WITH MINISTER ADDERLEY

FOLLOW IS TEXT OF MEMCON PREPARED BY AMBASSADOR CLINGAN  
ON SUBJECT MEETING:

QUOTE SENATOR STONE OPENED THE MEETING BY STATING THAT HE WAS NOT PRESENT TO DISCUSS LOBSTER, BUT THAT HE HOPED THE MINISTER WOULD BE RECEPTIVE TO DISCUSSING A RESEARCH AND STUDY PROGRAM CONCERNING BOTH RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL FINFISHING INTERESTS, PERHAPS LEADING TO A BAHAMAS/US AGREEMENT ON THE SUBJECT.

"MINISTER ADDERLEY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT THE SUBJECT OF LOBSTERS WOULD NOT BE PRESSED, AND PROCEEDED TO EXPLAIN TO THE SENATOR HIS PROBLEMS WITH FOREIGN FISHING IN BAHAMIAN WATERS FOR ALL SPECIES, INCLUDING LOBSTER. WITH RESPECT TO RESEARCH, HE SAID THAT THE BAHAMAS HAD BEEN THE RECEIPT OF A THREE-YEAR UNDP STUDY ON FINFISHES THAT INDICATED NO COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES OF GROUPER OR YELLOWTAIL, BUT PERHAPS SOME ISOLATED QUANTITIES OF GROUPER. HE SAID THEY HAD ALSO PARTICIPATED IN A JOINT CARIBBEAN STUDY ON FISHING, INCLUDING LOBSTER, AND INDICATED BY HIS REMARKS THAT A PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT A STUDY BY THE U.S. WOULD NOT BE ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED AND MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS AN  
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EFFORT BY US TO GATHER INFORMATION TO BE USED AGAINST THEM IN ANY SUBSEQUENT TALKS.

"HE MADE SEVERAL POINTS WITH RESPECT TO ENTERING INTO TALKS. FIRST, HE SAID, HE DID NOT WISH TO MAKE ANY DATE FOR TALKS BECAUSE THE BAHAMAS HAD NOT ONLY THE U.S. TO WORRY ABOUT, BUT ALSO CUBA, JAMAICA, AND THE TURKS AND

CAICOS ISLANDS. ANY PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE BAHAMAS WOULD BE AN INVITATION TO THE OTHERS TO DEMAND SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS. THIS WOULD BE POLITICALLY UNACCEPTABLE IN THE BAHAMAS SINCE FISH, AND LOBSTER IN PARTICULAR, ARE THEIR ONLY RESOURCE AND THE SINGLE ISSUE THAT THE ENTIRE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE ARE UNITED ON. HE SAID THAT THE PEOPLE PERCEIVE THAT THE INSHORE LOBSTER INDUSTRY HAS BEEN DEPLETED BY FOREIGN FISHING, AND MUST BE RESTORED. FURTHERMORE, HE NOTED THAT THE ENTIRE PRIOR ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY U.S. BOATS WERE PRIMARILY OPERATED BY THE "FISH-HOUSE" OPERATORS WAS COMPLETELY CONTRARY TO THE KIND OF COMMUNITY-ORIENTED, SINGLE-OWNER OPERATION HE WAS TRYING TO BUILD IN THE BAHAMAS, AND THUS WOULD NOT BE SOMETHING TO BE ENCOURAGED.

"ADDERLEY STRESSED THE LACK OF U.S. UNDERSTANDING OF HIS POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL PROBLEMS IN REGULATING THIS FISHERY. HE THEN MENTIONED THE BLAKE PLATEAU. HE SAID HE WAS EXTREMELY DISTURBED BY THE U.S. POSITION ON THE SHELF BOUNDARY LINE AND FELT THAT THE U.S. HAD NOT ACTED IN A TIMELY MANNER IN RESPONDING TO HIS INITIAL REQUESTS THAT THIS ISSUE BE NEGOTIATED. HE STATED THAT THE BOUNDARY MUST BE BOTH A CONTINENTAL SHELF LINE AND A FISHERIES LINE, AND FOR THIS REASON, HE COULD NOT EVEN ENTERTAIN A PROPOSAL FOR TALKS ON OTHER SUBSTANTIVE FISHERIES ISSUES UNTIL THIS LINE WAS RESOLVED.

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"SENATOR STONE INDICATED THAT HE KNEW OF THE PROBLEM ON THE BLAKE PLATEAU, AND UNDERSTOOD THE MINISTRY'S CONCERN. HE TOLD ADDERLEY THAT HE, STONE, WOULD UNDERTAKE AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN A "HIGH LEVEL" REVIEW OF THE U.S. POSITION ON UPON HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON. ADDERLEY SEEMED PLEASED, AND IN RESPONSE INDICATED THAT ONCE THE BOUNDARY ISSUE WAS SETTLED, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS SOME FISHERIES ISSUES, AND IN FACT BOTH THE U.S. AND BAHAMIAN LEGISLATION WOULD SEEM TO REQUIRE THAT THEY BE DISCUSSED IN THE CONTEXT OF DEALING WITH THE OVERLAPPING FISHERIES ZONES.

"STONE AND ADDERLEY THEN BRANCHED OFF INTO BROADER ISSUES. ADDERLEY EMPHASIZED THAT THE U.S. SHOULD BE MORE FORTHCOMING WITH THE BAHAMAS SINCE A LARGE SHARE OF THE DOLLARS IMPORTED INTO THE BAHAMAS RETURNS TO THE U.S. IN GENERAL AND SOUTH FLORIDA IN PARTICULAR, AND THUS IT WOULD BE IN OUR INTEREST TO SEE THE BAHAMAS FLOURISH. STONE THEN RAISED WITH HIM SEVERAL SPECIFIC PROBLEMS. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE APPLICATION OF AMERICAN AIRLINES TO REPLACE THE N.Y.-BAHAMAS RUN PREVIOUSLY OPERATED BY PAN AMERICAN WAS STALLED IN THE CAB. ADDERLEY INDICATED

THAT THIS WAS QUITE IMPORTANT TO THE BAHAMAS, AND STONE PROMISED TO CALL THE CHAIRMAN AND ASK HIM TO EXPEDITE A DECISION ON THE PENDING APPLICATION. STONE ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD PROMOTE AN INCREASE IN THE CUSTOMS EXEMPTION FROM \$100 TO \$250 AND THAT THIS LEGISLATION WOULD BE BEFORE THE SENATE EARLY IN THE YEAR. HE ALSO INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE TO CREATE A TAX BREAK FOR CARIBBEAN CONVENTIONS, SINCE THAT WOULD BENEFIT FLORIDA AS WELL. STONE FINALLY MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO DRAFT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD CREATE A SPECIAL EXEMPTION FROM FINANCIAL AID RESTRICTIONS (PER CAPITA INCOME LIMITS) FOR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES THAT WOULD SHOW THAT MORE THAN 50 PERCENT OF THEIR DOLLAR INCOMES WERE SPENT IN THE UNITED STATES. THIS SEEMED TO SURPRISE AND PLEASE THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTER.

"SUMMARY: THE MEETING SHOULD BE CLASSIFIED AS CORDIAL AND VERY HELPFUL. THE SITUATION SEEMS TO BE AS FOLLOWS. ADDERLEY WISHES TO COMPLETE BOUNDARY NEGOTIATIONS FIRST. HE IS UNWILLING TO SET A SPECIFIC DATE BECAUSE HE FEELS HE MUST FIRST MATCH THE U.S. CALL FOR NOMINATIONS AND RECEIVE THEM FROM OIL COMPANIES, TO PUT HIMSELF IN AN EQUAL BARGAINING POSITION. WHEN THIS IS DONE, HE WILL TALK. FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AGREED BOUNDARIES, THEN IT IS LIKELY THAT TALKS WILL TAKE PLACE ON FINFISHING. LOBSTER IS OUT FOR THE PRESENT, BUT NOT RULED OUT FOREVER. THE ESTIMATE IS THAT THE LOBSTER FISHING PROBLEM WILL NOT BE EASILY SOLVED. SCHWARTZ

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